

Message Text

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ACTION MMO-02

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1618

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AODE CS
SUBJ: MODE: USAID STAFFING LEVELS FOR FY '78 AND FY '79

REF: A. SAN JOSE 2280, B. STATE 124987,

1. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT PARA ONE REF A MAY HAVE BEEN MISINTERPRETED IN AID/W AND ELSEWHERE. ACCORDINGLY, WE WISH TO CLARIFY THAT AMBASSADOR STRONGLY SUPPORTS PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN USAID FY-1980 ANNUAL BUDGET SUBMISSION AND IS SATISFIED THAT THE MANPOWER ANALYSIS CONTAINED IN THE ABS IS A THOROUGH JOB THAT ACCURATELY REFLECTS THE MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS WHICH APPROVAL OF THE ABS WILL GENERATE. THOSE REQUIREMENTS WERE NOT SPELLED OUT IN REF A ONLY BECAUSE THE ABS HAD NOT YET BEEN APPROVED WITH AID/WASHINGTON AND BECAUSE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT PERSONNEL LEVELS SHOULD FOLLOW RATHER THAN PRECEDE PROGRAM DETERMINATIONS. NEVERTHELESS, WE WISH TO MAKE CLEAR THAT AMBASSADOR HAS APPROVED USAID MANPOWER PROJECTIONS ON "EXPLORATORY" BASIS PER REF B.

2. CURRENT USAID ROSTER SUBMITTED REF A OVERLOOKED AIFLD ADVISOR JOHN HEBERLE WHO IS AN AID CONTRACTOR EVEN THOUGH CONTRACT IS MANAGED LOCALLY BY EMBASSY RATHER THAN BY USAID. ALSO, TWO ADDITIONAL CONTRACT EMPLOYEES ARE EXPECTED TO BE ON BOARD BEFORE THE END OF FY '78. ONE, A ROCAP-CONTRACTED HOUSING ADVISOR, PRESENTLY STATIONED IN TEGUCIGALPA, WILL RE-LOCATE IN SAN JOSE AND, FOR FIRST
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YEAR, WILL DIVIDE HIS TIME BETWEEN REGIONAL HOUSING PROJECTS AND HOUSING COMPONENT OF PROPOSED USAID URBAN ENVIRONMENT LOAN. THE OTHER IS AN EMPLOYEE OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, UNDER CONTRACT TO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO MANAGE AID-FINANCED EXPERIMENTAL COMPREHENSIVE RESOURCE INVENTORY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY PROJECT. THUS, BY END OF FY '78, TOTAL US STRENGTH OF USAID/COSTA RICA WILL BE TWENTY-TWO, OF WHOM THIRTEEN WILL BE DIRECT HIRE (MODE CEILING

IS FOURTEEN), THREE WILL BE IDIS, ONE WILL BE PASA, AND FIVE WILL BE CONTRACT.

3. BY END OF FY '79, USAID ANTICIPATES A NET INCREASE OF TWO POSITIONS FOR A TOTAL OF TWENTY-FOUR. THIS WILL BREAK DOWN INTO SEVENTEEN DIRECT HIRE, TWO IDI, ONE PASA, AND FOUR CONTRACT. BY END OF FY '80, USAID PROJECTS TWO ADDITIONAL DIRECT HIRE POSITIONS AND ONE ADDITIONAL IDI FOR TOTAL OF TWENTY-SEVEN.

4. AMBASSADOR AGREES THAT PROJECTED USIAD STAFF INCREASES ARE PARSIMONIOUS GIVEN THE PROPOSED PROGRAM INCREASES WHICH CONSTITUTE THE MOST CONCRETE COMPONENT OF OUR EFFORTS TO ATTAIN APPROVED US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN COSTA RICA. PROJECTED USAID STAFF FOR FY '79 AND FY '80 CLEARLY IS PATTERNED TO ADDRESS ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS OF CONTEMPLATED PROGRAM. WHILE SOME ADDITIONAL REFINEMENTS MAY BE REQUIRED AS THE PROGRAM IS FURTHER ELABORATED, MAJOR RESHUFFLING OF PERSONNEL TO ACCOMPLISH PROGRAM GOALS WITHOUT LIMITED STAFF INCREASES IS NOT CONSIDERED FEASIBLE.

5. PROJECTED USAID STAFF INCREASES WILL REQUIRE ADDITION OF TWO LOCAL DAS POSITIONS TO THE GSO FUNCTION OF THE JAO. RESHUFFLING OF PRESENT DAS POSITIONS TO PROVIDE REQUIRED ADDITIONAL SUPPORT IS NOT FEASIBLE SINCE GSO ALREADY IS OVERTAXED IN EFFORTS TO PROVIDE MINIMAL SUPPORT TO SERVICED AGENCIES AND THEIR EMPLOYEES.
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition Remarks:
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